(c) if so, what are the steps taken to repatriate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) As on 5.12.92, there were 77 Indians in Jail on charges of over-stay beyond the validity period of the visa

(c) The responsibility of deportation of such detainess lies with the local Government. The Indian High Commission in Singapore ensures that such people have the documents required to enter India after establishing their Indian nationality.

(d) and (e) 4 women who claimed to be Indian nationals and who come to Singapore on a social visit, have been detained due to overstaying the validity period of the visa. Their status as Indian nationals has not yet been established.

The question of deportation or repatriation of these women would arise only after it is established that they are Indian nationals.

युद्धबन्दियों से संबंधित मामले

2694. **श्रीमती सत्या बहिन::** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या हाल में आयोजित सचिव स्तरीय बैठक में, पाकिस्तान में युद्धबन्दियों और वहां की जेलों में बंद भारतीय नागरिकों की रिहाई संबंधी मामलों के बारे में कोई चर्चा हुई थी; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० एल० भाटिया): (क) से (ख) जी हां। नई दिल्ली में 16 से 19 अगस्त 1992 तक विदेश सचिव स्तर की बातचीत के छठे दौर में लापता रक्षा कार्मिकों और असैनिक कैदियों के मसले पर तकनीकी बातचीत करने पर सहमति हुई थी।

Pakistan High Commissioner's Remarks on Kashmir

2695. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem published in the 'Pioneer' of 16th November, 1992 under the caption 'Pakistan's challenge at the U.N.' regarding the remarks of the Pakistan High Commissioner the Pakistan retained the option of using its newly acquired status of a U.N. Security Council Member to step up its propaganda offensive on Kashmir;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the interview given by the Pakistan High Commissioner to Pioneer when *inter-alia*, answering a question about Pakistan using its position as a Member of the UN Security Council to step up its propaganda on Kashmir, he reportedly stated that Pakistan's options were open.

(c) Government have and will continue to take appropriate measures to project to the international community the correct facts regarding the situation in Jammu & Kashmir as well as Pakistan's support to terrorism directed against India. These issues were also raised firmly with the High Commission of Pakistan in India and Pakistani authorities in Islamabad